



# Arizona Department of Public Safety **DIGEST**

Vol. 40, No. 7

'Courteous Vigilance'

November/December 2006

## Unnerving scene

This was the scene of a frightening collision along Interstate 17 near Camp Verde on Oct. 26 involving veteran DPS Officer Brady Bullard. Bullard was sitting in his patrol vehicle (pictured) when it was hit from behind by a PT Cruiser traveling at or above the posted speed limit. Bullard was unresponsive for about 15 minutes after the collision and, like the driver of the PT Cruiser, suffered serious injuries. However, he is recovering better than expected and could be back to work within months if an upcoming eye surgery goes as planned (See story on page 18).



## DPS, AZ Vehicle Theft Task Force receive lofty awards from IACP

*Agency has now been honored three years in a row by the venerable law enforcement group*

The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the world's oldest and most respected group of law enforcement executives, presented the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the Arizona Vehicle Theft Task Force (AVTTF) with two of its most sought-after and prestigious awards for law enforcement excellence on October, 17, 2006, at its 113<sup>th</sup> Annual IACP Conference in Boston, Massachusetts.

Several representatives from DPS, including agency Deputy Director David A. Felix, accepted the awards on behalf of the Department and the AVTTF at the conference which was attended by more than 14,000 law enforcement professionals from throughout the country.

The award given to DPS by the IACP in Boston recognized the agency as the first place winner in the mid-sized "state police/highway patrol category" of the 2005 National Law Enforcement Challenge.

The National Law Enforcement Challenge, operated by the IACP in partnership with the National Sheriffs Association, is a national highway safety competition developed under a grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) that is designed to encourage departments to step up enforcement in the target areas of impaired driving, occupant protection, and speed

enforcement.

DPS was ultimately selected for the first place award among dozens of other agencies in their highly competitive category after a judging panel in Washington D.C. comprised of law enforcement representatives and traffic safety professionals determined that the agency had "gone above and beyond" in regards to improving traffic safety within its jurisdiction.

The presentation of this award to DPS marked the third year in a row that the state law enforcement agency has been recognized by the IACP as one of the very best in the country when it comes to improving and promoting traffic safety.

To be considered for this impressive honor, DPS had to submit a lengthy, illustrated award application to the IACP earlier this year.

DPS' application, like those submitted by other law enforcement agencies in the competition, listed, in detail, the traffic safety efforts the agency and its dedicated officers had put forth during 2005. The application showed, through a variety of documentation, how such efforts were effective and ultimately led to a reduction in motor vehicle crashes, injuries and fatalities on Arizona's highways.

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**From Director  
Roger L. Vanderpool's  
*Vantage Point***



As you will learn by reading the article on the cover of this issue of *The Digest*, DPS was recently honored once again for its traffic safety efforts by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). DPS has now received some of the highest possible recognition for its traffic safety work from the IACP three years in a row.

The prestigious awards DPS continuously receives from the respected IACP organization are proof that our agency's efforts towards traffic safety in Arizona don't go unnoticed in the collective eyes of the national law enforcement community.

However, DPS is known for much more than traffic safety work and a number of upcoming events will allow us to further showcase our depth as a law enforcement agency while operating in the national spotlight.

The national spotlight will be upon us in January as we provide law enforcement services during the Fiesta Bowl, which is college football's national championship game this year, and other football events. We will be asking many of our employees to support this effort.

It will be an opportune time to build upon the professional reputation our agency has earned on the national level for its professionalism and Courteous Vigilance. After all, these football games and related events will be attended and viewed on television by millions of people who reside in different areas of the country.

In closing, I would like to thank every employee at DPS for the hard, dedicated work they put forth during 2006. Judging from the complementary, heartfelt letters written by the citizens of this great state that keep landing on my desk, you are doing a tremendous, admirable job.

I hope you and your families have a wonderful holiday season and a New Year filled with many blessings.

Please be extra careful this time of year whether you are on routine patrol duty, working a special enforcement detail, or just out and about running holiday errands with loved ones.

**For the record**  
**A new year can mean a new you**

by Officer Jason Yeager, DPS' Use of Force Coordinator

It's that time of year again and there is no doubt that most of us have made or will be making some kind of New Year's Resolution. For some of us it's a new goal, and for others it's yet another opportunity for that same vice that we just can't kick.

As you are going over your list, try to consider a few things that may help you to be more successful:

1. What are my goals?
2. Am I being realistic?
3. What is my reward?
4. How do I achieve my goals?

Many people are unsuccessful with their New Year's Resolutions because they pick goals that are too lofty, too vague, or just personally weren't that important. When you are ready to pick a resolution, try to consider all of your goals as a whole. Knowing your goals is the first step in achieving them. If you have an overall plan or vision of where you see yourself in one year, five years, or after retirement, what kind of things do you need to be doing to get to that place?

If your New Year's Resolution isn't something that is going to better you in the long term or help you to work towards a greater goal, then you should examine why you are putting effort into it now? After you have chosen your goals, try to prioritize them. Decide which ones are important or relevant now, and which ones can wait. Some goals may simply build upon one another and can not be accomplished until other tasks or events occur.

After you have chosen and prioritized your goals, give them a second look. Many times we are our own worst critics and expect much more from ourselves than anyone else possibly would. In some cases this is good because we should always push ourselves to exceed. In other cases though, we are merely setting ourselves up for failure.

If your goal is to run a full marathon this year and you've never run before, you must realize the complexity of your goal and that many other smaller goals are going to have to be achieved before you can safely run that marathon. Additionally, if you say you are going to run a marathon and you don't even like to run, then why punish yourself? What is your real goal? Is it strictly to become healthier or more active? If that is the case, then why not do something that you do enjoy?

It is going to be much easier to achieve and you will feel good throughout the whole process instead of just saying at the end, "Great, I finally made my goal and got it over with!" Some goals like

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*The Digest* is published monthly by the DPS Community Outreach and Education Program for DPS employees and retirees.

Employees are invited to submit story ideas or stories for publication. Stories or story ideas may be submitted to *The Digest* by mail (mail drop 3350), EMS or Telephone (602-223-2545).

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*The Digest* can be accessed directly from the DPS World Wide Web home page at <http://www.azdps.gov/digest>.

*The Arizona Department of Public Safety  
is an Equal Employment Opportunity Agency.*



## DPS' cruiser named "best patrol vehicle" at popular police expo

DPS' patrol car was recently named the "best police cruiser" in the West at an enormous law enforcement exposition hosted by the California Peace Officer's Association (CPOA).

The honor marks yet another incidence where DPS' dramatically improved patrol vehicle has been given national recognition within the law enforcement community for its safety, design, and functionality.

DPS Highway Patrol Division Chief Jack Lane, Fleet Service Manager Mike Fuson, Sergeants Wayde Webb and Tim Bolger, along with both Officers Hector Castillo and George Luna were present to accept the award Oct. 26 on behalf of the Department at the annual "Cops West" Law Enforcement Expo in Ontario, California.

Cops West is an annual Law Enforcement Expo produced by the California Peace Officer's Association (CPOA). This year's event was held from October 23 through October 26, at the Ontario Convention Center in Ontario, California.

There were over 450 booths representing more than 300 companies. The event was held to showcase new law enforcement equipment and technology. The latest in command vans, vehicle lighting, specialty vehicles, patrol vehicles, cameras and license plate readers were just a few of the items being displayed.

All major vehicle manufactures from Chrysler, Ford and General Motors were on hand to give presentations. These presentations covered the latest upgrades and changes to their new production models. Break out sessions were available for discussing questions and/or design features of new patrol vehicles, as well as current issues facing law enforcement officers. One day was scheduled at a local driving track



### Cruiser recognition

Accepting the "best police cruiser" award on behalf of DPS were (from left) Officer Randy Narmi, Officer George Luna, Officer Hector Castillo, Officer Cameron Weidenbach, Sgt. Tim Bolger, Fleet Services Manager Mike Fuson and Sgt. Wayde Webb.

to allow participants to see the handling and performance of the new police vehicles.

Departments from California, Utah, Wyoming, Arizona, and as far as Vancouver Canada competed in several award programs sponsored by CPOA. These programs were designed to identify a winner to be named "Best of Cops West" in several categories. In addition to the elite category of best patrol vehicle, which DPS won, some of the other categories were best specialty vehicle, best motorcycle, and best agency badge. All agency entries were evaluated by a panel of judges.

Because DPS' vehicle was named "best

police cruiser," the agency was invited to prominently display one of its patrol vehicles throughout the 2006 Cops West Expo.

DPS Fleet employees worked hard at building a current new marked "B" patrol vehicle to be transported to California and displayed at the Convention Center. The selected patrol vehicle was equipped with a video camera, MDC, trunk pack, rear seat restraint system, lighting features and fire suppression system.

HPD Officers Hector Castillo and George Luna were selected to represent the agency by driving the patrol vehicle from Arizona to

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## Drunk driver who seriously injured rookie DPS officer is sentenced

Reed Hatch, the drunk driver who ran down and seriously injured rookie DPS Officer Charlie Hopkins in August of 2005, was recently sentenced to seven years of prison time, five years of probation and 500 hours of community service.

Hatch was also fined \$500,000 which will go towards restitution for the medical expenses incurred by Hopkins during his lengthy recovery.

If you don't remember, Hopkins was in Payson with a large group of other rookie officers from DPS at the time he was injured by Hatch.

All of the officers, including Hopkins, were enrolled in the Department's seven-week, post-academy advanced basic train-

ing program and were sent to Payson for a few days to help destroy marijuana plants.

Charlie was walking along a sidewalk near his hotel after a long day of work when a vehicle driven by an intoxicated Hatch left the roadway and struck him. Hatch fled the scene but was arrested a short time later.

Hopkins was airlifted to Good Samaritan Hospital in Phoenix in very critical condition and doctors believed he may have suffered a severe brain injury.

He was soon placed in a near 50-day drug induced coma to stop swelling in his brain and doctors didn't know if he would ever be able to recognize close family members and friends again upon awakening. At one point during his coma, the 24-year-old with a wife

and daughter flirted with death.

In a series of events closely followed by the DPS family, Hopkins went on to make a truly miraculous recovery.

In fact, just last month, Hopkins passed a battery of specialized medical and neurological tests that convinced doctors he is completely capable of pursuing his career as an officer with DPS.

He is, however, being required to go through the rigors of the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy (ALEA) a second time.

At the time this issue of *The Digest* went to press, Hopkins was performing great in the current recruit class which began their ALEA training on Dec. 4. The entire DPS family is rooting for you, Charlie.

## Director elevates two DPS sergeants to the rank of lieutenant

Director Roger Vanderpool elevated DPS Sergeants Lynn Ideus and Danny Lugo to the rank of lieutenant during a promotional ceremony on Oct. 30. Short biographical sketches of the new lieutenants are provided below. The sketches provide a variety of information about each employee, including details about where Ideus and Lugo have been assigned within the agency as a result of their promotions.

### Lynn Ideus, Badge No. 2378

Lynn began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on July 23, 1978 as a Cadet Officer.

After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to District twelve working in Cordes Junction. He remained in District twelve for eighteen years working various assignments. Lynn was responsible for firearms training, VASCAR training, high-risk vehicle stop training, intoxilyzer maintenance and training, and field training. In 1997, Lynn was promoted to Sergeant. He moved to Safford where he supervised a Criminal Investigations squad for over nine years. Lynn is now being promoted to Lieutenant as an Operational Training Commander.

Lynn was born in Speyer, West Germany and raised in a military family living in Portugal, Greece, Virginia, Nebraska and Arizona. He spent three years in the United States Army with assignments in Arizona and Germany. Lynn has been married to his spouse Valerie for over fifteen years. They have six children, Annie, 33, Katie, 31, Melissa, 29, Leann, 25, Daniel, 23 and Meghan 18. They also have six grandchildren ranging in ages from 1 to 15.

### Danny Lugo, Badge No. 4190

Danny began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on September 23, 1988 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Holbrook. During his time as an Officer, Danny was assigned to the Showlow/Pinetop area, Tuc-



LYNN IDEUS



DANNY LUGO

son, DPS Southern Narcotics, Metropolitan Area Narcotics Trafficking Interdiction Squad (M.A.N.T.I.S.) and served as an undercover officer for GITEM. In July of 1996, Danny was promoted to Sergeant and served as a Gang Enforcement Squad Supervisor, Administrative Sergeant, Meth Lab Task Force Supervisor, MANTIS Task Force Supervisor, General Narcotics Supervisor, Gang Investigations and Enforcement Sergeant, and most recently as the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center Supervisor. Danny is now being promoted to Lieutenant for the Borders Crime District, State Gang

Task Force.

Danny has been recognized numerous times for exemplary performance throughout his DPS career. He was awarded Most Drug Arrests, Highway Patrol District Three, in 1989 and 1990. In 1992, he received the Outstanding DUI Enforcement Award, Highway Patrol District Eight Officer of the Year and Outstanding DPS Officer of the Year. He received the Director's Unit Citation in 1994, 1995, 2003 and 2004; Distinguished Service Award in 1995 for a suspect rescued from a fire and again in 2004 for the Lewis Prison Hostage/Barricade Crisis. Danny's other awards include Certificate of Commendation in 1995, Department Letter of Commendation in 1997, Officer of the Year Recognition Award and Narcotics District of the Year in 1999, Appreciation Award from the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Drug Enforcement Administration Certificate of Appreciation in 2001, Narcotics Bureau Supervisor of the Year and Appreciation Recognition for recovery support during the RODEO-CHEDISKI FIRE in 2002.

Danny was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. He spent four years in the United States Marine Corps with assignments in Okinawa, Japan and South Korea. Danny has been married to his spouse Valerie for over eight years. They have four children, Treveon 17, Ashley 17, Shayne 15, and Daniel 13.

## A new you ...

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quitting smoking just aren't fun no matter how you try to tackle them. If this is the case, making a game of it or finding a partner (if merely to share your misery with) may be an effective approach.

Especially with the goals that are more arduous to achieve than others, you need to provide yourself with some motivation. No goal is worth achieving unless it has a purpose or reward. Your reward could be as simple as knowledge that your cholesterol level went down or patting yourself on the back because you lost the 10 pounds you had gained since Thanksgiving. Even so, try to give yourself something with a bit more of an intrinsic value. Even if it is something simple like taking yourself out to a fancy dinner or buying a new outfit, guilt free. The bigger the achievement, the greater reward you deserve. A couple years ago I vowed that if I paid off all my credit cards and was able to put a certain amount of money away in savings then I could use a portion of the money to buy myself something frivolous. It became quite a game and challenge to myself that I far exceeded my goal and was able to buy several 'toys' that I certainly did not need but that still today remind me of my positive achievement

and allow me to set the bar higher for future goals. If you are using a partner to help achieve your goal, then a friendly wager can also be a fun method of motivation. Try not to have a winner and a loser, but instead if each of you achieves your goal, then each partner upholds their wager. If rewards are not enough, then have some consequences available for not achieving your goals.

Lastly is achieving your goals. The only person that affects your ability to achieve your goals is you. Put all excuses aside and think about your goal in positive terms. Sometimes events and unforeseen circumstances can arise. Stay the course or adapt as necessary. (It's not an exact science.) If you picked a goal you were truly passionate about, planned out your 'attack' and gave yourself rewards and consequences, then nothing should stop you. We are a product of our choices, not a victim of our circumstances. Make good choices and give it your best effort. Sometimes we need to reassess or break our goal into smaller pieces. Don't be discouraged or ashamed if this happens. It's always better to achieve our goals late than not at all. Good Luck!

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy  
Jason Yeager, Badge No. 6100  
(602) 223-2319





TRACEE CAJTHAML



JESSICA CASTILLO



ROBERT DARADICI



TONY FRANGIPANE



VERONICA LUNA

## Seven civilian employees promoted during ceremonies

DPS Director Roger Vanderpool recently elevated seven civilian employees at DPS to higher job classifications during two separate promotional ceremonies. Four of the newly promoted civilian employees were promoted during a ceremony on Oct. 30 while the remaining three were promoted during a ceremony on Nov. 20. Following is information about all of the newly promoted civilian employees at DPS along with details about each employee's new assignment within the agency.

### Tracee Cajthaml, Badge No. 6589

Tracee began her career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on June 25, 2005 as a Criminal Records Specialist for the Criminal History Records Unit. In August of 2006, she transferred to the Sex Offender Compliance Unit. Under this unit, she entered registrations daily. She was responsible for completing validations and responding to requests from various detectives and law enforcement agencies who wanted copies of the registrations and/or court documents. She also made sure that subject's criminal records were complete and accurate. She is now being promoted to Administrative Assistant for Operational Training.

Tracee was born and raised in Arizona.

### Jessica Castillo, Badge No. 6612

Jessica began her career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on September 3, 2005 as a Criminal Records Specialist for the Applicant Clearance Card Team. While working for the Applicant Clearance Card Team she entered fingerprint information and completed background checks on applicants. She is now being promoted to Administrative Assistant for the Concealed Weapons Permit Unit.

In 2005, Jessica completed her FBI Fingerprint Classification course and was the SECC Campaign Coordinator for the Licensing and Regulatory Bureau.

Jessica was born and raised in Holbrook.

### Robert Daradici, Badge No. 5460

Robert began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on September 5, 1998 as a Telecommunications Technician Trainee for the Microwave Room. In April 1999, he worked in the Tower Rigger Unit as a Communications Tower Technician Trainee and then moved to the Telephone and Data Unit as a Telecommunications Specialist in September 2002. Robert is now being promoted to Personal Computer Specialist for P.C. Support.

Robert was awarded the Director's Unit Citation while in Tower Rigger and employee of the month while in Telephone and Data.

Robert was raised in Romania. He has been married to his spouse Jodi for over eight years. They have a foster son, Jacob, who is sixteen years old. Robert received his degree in Avionics and Telecommunications from the High-Tech Institute.

### Tony Frangipane, Badge No. 5471

Tony began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on September 26, 1998 as a Police Communications Dispatcher for Central Opcomm. In February of 2001, he was promoted to Senior Communications Dispatcher. Later that year, Tony was promoted to Intelligence Research Specialist for the Criminal Intelligence Research Unit. In August of 2002, he was promoted to Criminal Intelligence Analyst for RMIN and was assigned to ACTIC in October of 2004 as a RMIN Analyst and Liaison. Tony is now being promoted to Criminal Analyst Supervisor for ACTIC.

Tony was awarded Central Opcomm Dispatcher of the Year in 2000 and RMIN Criminal Intelligence Analyst of the Year in 2005.

Tony was raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He spent fifteen years in the United States Coast Guard from 1984 to 1998. Tony has been married to his spouse Barbara for over twenty years.

They have five children Christian, 15, Elodia, 13, Gabriel, 11, Anna, 11, and Amani, 9. Tony received his Associate of Arts degree in General Studies from Glendale Community College and his Bachelors of Science degree in Sociology from Grand Canyon University.

### Veronica Luna, Badge No. 6526

Veronica began her career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on February 26, 2005 as a Criminal Records Specialist for the Criminal History Records Unit. While in this position, she responded to officer's requests on warrant confirmations and entered court-appointed dispositions into the Arizona Criminal Justice Information Systems (ACJIS). She processed incoming mail from various criminal justice agencies and criminal history background checks for DPS officers, Child Protective Services and various other nationwide criminal justice agencies. In April of 2006, she was transferred to the Sex Offender Compliance Unit. Under this unit, she entered sex offender registrations in to the ACJIS. She was responsible for the validation process including reviewing sex offender files, validating listed addresses, making necessary changes and requesting court documentation. She validated criminal history sex



KEVIN ROGERS



TERRI WESTSIK

## Director elevates 25 officers to the rank of sergeant at ceremony

Director Roger Vanderpool elevated 25 officers at DPS to the rank of sergeant during a highly anticipated promotional ceremony on Nov. 20 in front of the DPS Headquarters Building in Phoenix. Following, in alphabetical order, are short biographical sketches of the new sergeants. Included in each sketch is information about where the newly promoted employees have been assigned within the agency.

### **Trent Adamson, Badge No. 4774**

Trent began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on April 21, 1993 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Winslow. In 1994, he transferred to Tucson and worked in Highway Patrol, Southern Canine Unit and Southern Narcotics. Since 2004, he has been assigned to the Southern Canine Unit. Trent is now being promoted to Sergeant for District 8 in Tucson.

Trent was District 8 Highway Patrol Officer of the Year. He received Director's Unit Citations in 1998 from District 8 and in 2001 from the Canine Unit. In 2002, he was the recipient of the Narcotics Detective of the Year.

Trent was born in Des Moines, Iowa and raised in Tucson. Trent has been married to his wife Nancy for 13 years. They have two sons, Zachary, 11 and Cole, 9. Trent has 4 years of military police experience from the United States Air Force.

### **John Allen, Badge No. 4511**

John began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on December 9, 1990 as an Officer assigned to District 6, Coolidge. In February of 1992, he transferred to District 5, in Phoenix until November of the same year when he went on to District 6, Casa Grande. In November of 1994, John transferred to Pinal County Narcotics Unit and then onto District 6, Coolidge, in 1997 where he remained for five years. In July of 2001, he transferred to the Special Investigations Unit. John's most recent assignment has been with the Vehicle Crimes Unit since September of 2003. John is now being promoted to Sergeant for Criminal Investigations, Vehicular Crimes Unit.

John was the District Six Officer of the Year in 2000. In 2004, he received the Director's Unit Citation for the Vehicular Crimes Unit and Vehicular Crimes Unit Officer of the Year.

John was born and raised in Coolidge. He is a veteran of the United States Air Force. John has been married to his wife Colleen for 12 years. They have one son, Brandon, who is seven years of age.

### **John T. Bottoms, Badge No. 4290**

John began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on September 22, 1989 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to District 19, area 6 in Youngtown. In March of 1991, John was transferred to District 18 in Mesa. While working in Mesa, he became a drug recognition expert, field training officer and a member of the Fatal Accident Investigations Team. In June of 1996, he transferred to the Operational

Training Unit where he worked as a tactical driving instructor, high risk stops instructor and advanced officer training coordinator. From June of 1997 to April of 2000, John was assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division and worked in the Prescription Fraud Unit. From April of 2000 to June of 2003, John worked in the Major Crimes District and was assigned to the Special Investigations Unit.

In June of 2003, he transferred to the Economic Crimes District and was assigned to the Financial Crimes Unit. John is now being promoted to Sergeant for Metro East Highway Patrol, Graves.

John received recognition as a member of the Highway Patrol District of the Year while working in District 18. He has received five Director Unit Citations; one from the Operational Training Unit, two from the Special Investigations Unit, and two from the Financial Crimes Unit.

John was born in Dugway, Utah and raised in Mesa. He has been married to his wife Dru for 8 years. They have three children, Kaiden, 16, Johnny, 7 and Reagan, 3.

### **Robert Bowers, Badge No. 3633**

Robert began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on July 7, 1985 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Ajo. In March of 1986, he transferred to Gila Bend and then to Black Canyon City in January of 1989. Robert transferred to Metro Central in August of 1990 and then onto District 7, Motors in April of 1992. He has been assigned to the Criminal Investigation Vehicle Theft Task Force since 1997. Robert is now being promoted to Sergeant for Highway Patrol, Metro East, Motors.

Robert was the State Investigator of the Year in 1997 and received a Director's Citation for Professional Excellence. He was Criminal Investigations Officer of the Year in 1998. In 1999, 2003 and 2005 he received the Director's Unit Citation. He was a member of the District of the Year in 1999 for Vehicle Theft Investigations. In 2003, he received the International Association of Auto Theft Investigators Award for Vehicle Theft Investigations.

Robert was born in Globe and raised in Phoenix. He has been married to his wife Diane for 21 years. They have a son Kyle, 23 and a daughter Christina, 20.

### **Marcy Cox, Badge No. 5363**

Marcy began her career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on December 18, 1997 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, she was assigned to Yuma. From 1999 to 2003, Marcy worked as a Detective for GITEM in Yuma, Cochise and Pima counties. In 2003, Marcy left the Department but returned in 2004 as an Officer for Sierra Vista. In March of 2006, she transferred to Economic Crimes Unit in Tuc-



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## New sergeants ...

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son as a Detective. Marcy is now being promoted to Sergeant for Criminal Investigations, GITEM in Tucson.

In 2005, Marcy was awarded the Agent of the Year from the US Attorney's Office, and Officer of the Year from Elks Club and District 9.

Marcy was born in Escondido, California and raised in Lake Tahoe, California. She has two daughters, Abigail, 5, and Madison, 3. Marcy received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Arizona State University.

### Jon Dover, Badge No. 4089

Jon began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on January 3, 1988 as an Officer Trainee for Kingman. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Salome/Wenden. In March of 1991, he moved to Wickenburg where he worked in Highway Patrol and became the Lead Firearms Instructor.

In 1993, he transferred to Metro West where he became the District's Administrative Officer with duties such as Sworn Reserve Supervisor, Officer Trainee Coordinator, and District Vehicle and Tow Truck Administrator. In February of 1997, Jon transferred to the Criminal Investigations Division as a Detective with GITEM.

In July of 1998, Jon transferred to Liquor Investigations. In January of 2000, Jon transferred to the Special Investigations Unit. In February of 2001, he transferred to the General Investigations Unit.

In December of 2002, Jon became the first Criminal Investigations Detective to become a Hazardous Materials Technician assigned to the Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)-Hazardous Materials Unit (HMU). In July of 2006, Jon transferred to the Firearms Training Unit. Jon is now being promoted to Sergeant for Highway Patrol, Metro West Swings.

Jon was one of the award recipients of the Highway Patrol Bureau Reserve District of the Year in 1993, 1994 and 1996, the Highway Patrol Bureau and Metro Division District of the Year in 1994, and the Central Operations Bureau, C.I. Squad of the Year in 1997.

In 1996, he was Highway Patrol Bureau District 14 Officer of the Year. Jon has also completed over 500 hours of training in the areas of WMD, Haz-Mat Terrorism and Radiological/Nuclear response.

Jon was born and raised in Yuma. He has been married to his wife Nghia (Nia) for 18 years. Their beloved 14 year old daughter Lindsey Marie recently passed away.

### Brad Elliot, Badge No. 5286

Brad began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on July 26, 1997 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to the Page Highway Patrol Squad. In August of 1999, Brad transferred to Flagstaff Highway Patrol.

During his service in Flagstaff he worked as a District 2 Reserve Coordinator, District 2 Explorer Advisor, Field Training Instructor, Taser Instructor, Phlebotomist and he was a founding member of the District 2 Collision Team. Brad is now being promoted to Sergeant for Criminal Investigations, GITEM in Flagstaff.



Brad received the Flagstaff Mason's Lodge Officer of the Year in 2001. In 2004, he received two Director's Unit Citations for District 2 and Phlebotomy. He was also the District 2 Officer of the Year in 2005.

Brad was born and raised in Flagstaff.

### Paul Etnire, Badge No. 4942

Paul began his law enforcement career as an Officer for the City of Flagstaff Police Department in 1993. On September 17, 1994, he joined the Arizona Department of Public Safety as an Officer working in District 3, Winslow.

From August of 1995 to February of 2002, Paul was a Motorcycle Officer for District 7 Motors. In addition to Motors, he was a Recruit Training Officer for the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy. Paul's assignment for the last four years has been with the Human Resources Bureau as a Recruiting Officer.

He also worked on the Governor's Protective Detail in March of 2005. Paul is now being promoted to Sergeant for Criminal Investigations, GITEM, East Valley Enforcement.

Paul was awarded Employee of the Year while in the Human Resources Bureau. He has been a Peer Support Member of the Critical Incident Stress Management since 2000 and a Crisis/ Hostage Negotiator Team Leader since 2004.

Paul was born in Fort Ord, California and raised in Kykotsmvi, an Arizona Hopi Reservation. Paul has his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice/ Political Science from Northern Arizona University. Paul was a Military Policeman with the Arizona Army National Guard from January of 1992 to February of 2006.

He was deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2003 to 2004 and for relief operations in Louisiana during Hurricane Katrina and Rita in 2005.

### Douglas Jensen, Badge No. 4946

Douglas began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on September 17, 1994 as an Officer. His first assignment was with Highway Patrol working the Bee-line Highway.

He transferred to Casa Grande working Interstate 10 in 1997 and the Canine Unit in 1998. Since 2002, he has worked as a Detective with the Phoenix Narcotics Unit. Douglas is now being promoted to Sergeant for the Special Operations Unit, Fugitive SWAT Team.

Douglas was the District 6 Highway Drug Interdiction Officer of the Year in 1998 and 1999. In 2000, he was the Canine Squad Officer of the Year. In 2001, he was the Central District Canine Officer of the Year and received the Scottsdale Elks Lodge Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award.

Also, he received a Meritorious Service Award for his assignment as a SWAT Officer during the Lewis Prison Hostage Stand Off in 2004.

Douglas was born and raised in Gilbert. He has been with his fiancé Jody for 6 years. They have a son named Jake, who is 12 years old.



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## New sergeants ...

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### Philip Johnson, Badge No. 4988

Philip began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on November 12, 1994 as a Police Communications Dispatcher for the Flagstaff Center. In 1996, Philip left the Department for the Flagstaff Police Department, but returned in January of 1999, as an officer assigned to District 3, Sanders. In 2002, he transferred to Metro West, Highway Patrol Division and then to Criminal Investigations Division the Special Investigations Unit in 2005, working as a Detective. Philip is now being promoted to Sergeant for Agency Support Division, Advanced Basic.



Philip has been a member of the expert committee on traffic law to AZ POST since 1999. He is the lead instructor for Traffic Law at DPS Advance Basic Academies. He is a current member of the DPS honor guard and has received three Director's Unit Citations along with a Director's Commendation.

Philip was born and raised in Phoenix. He has been married to his wife Marcia, who is also an officer for the Department, for 3 years. They have one son named Mark who is 20 months old. Philip has Bachelor degrees in Criminal Justice and Music from Northern Arizona University.

### Casey Kasun, Badge No. 5092

Casey began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on September 9, 1995 as an Officer Trainee. After graduating from the Academy in 1996, he was assigned to Williams. In March of 1999, he was transferred to the Northern Canine Unit. Since 2003, he has been an Instructor for the Northern Canine Unit. Casey is now being promoted to Sergeant for District 12, Seligman.



Casey was Officer of the Year in 2001 and was Arizona Narcotics Officer of the Year. As a member of the Northern Canine Unit he received two Squad of the Year awards and a Director's Unit Citation. Also, he received awards from the Drug Interdiction Assistance Program and El Paso Intelligence Center for the largest meth-amphetamine seizure nationwide.

Casey was born in Phoenix and raised in Prescott. He has been married to his wife Cinda for 9 years. They have a son Chase, 7 and two daughters, Kaitlyn, 5 and Kari, 3.

### G.R. Manera, Badge No. 4577

G.R. began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on September 17, 1991 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to District 3, Holbrook. He transferred to District 12 Highway Patrol in October of 1993. Two years later, he participated in a 90-day temporary detail with Narcotics. In April of 1996, John transferred to Prescott's Criminal Investigations/Narcotics Unit. His latest assignment had been working as a Detective in Prescott's Criminal Investigations Unit. G.R. is now being promoted to Sergeant for Criminal Investigations in Prescott.

G.R. received the Highway Patrol Squad of the Year as a member

of the District 12, Area 1 squad in 1993. In 1998 and 2001, he was Northern Investigations Officer of the Year. In 1999, he was Criminal Investigations Division Officer of the Year; he received the Director's Unit Citation as a member of the Prescott Area Narcotics Task Force and a Special Recognition Award from ATF for the Drake Explosives Investigation. In 2004, he received the Director's Unit Citation as a member of the Northern Investigations District.

G.R. was born and raised in Prescott. He has been married to his wife Jennifer for 16 years. They have one daughter Alyssa, who is nine years old. G.R. has his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Arizona State University.



### Kris L. Matthews, Badge No. 4614

Kris began his law enforcement career as a Reserve for Graham County, Arizona in 1991. On December 28, 1991, he joined the Arizona Department of Public Safety with his first assignment in Wilcox, District 9, Area 3. In October of 1998, Kris transferred to Criminal Investigations as a Detective with the Vehicle Theft Task Force. Kris is now being promoted to Sergeant for Criminal Investigations in Safford.

Kris was awarded the Director's Unit Citation and Officer of the Year while in District 9. In 1995, he received the NICB Vehicle Theft Interdiction Award. While in the Vehicle Theft Task Force, he received two Director's Unit Citations in 1999 and 2005. Kris was recognized in 2001, as the Police Investigator of the Year by the Arizona Auto Theft Investigators Association. In 1999 and 2004, he was a member of the Border Unit which was Criminal Investigations Division Squad of the Year.

Kris was born in Phoenix and raised in Pima. Kris has been married to his wife Barbra for 18 years. They have three children, Morgan, 14, Mandy, 10 and Mika, 7. Kris has his Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Northern Arizona University.



### Donald Mattus, Badge No. 5602

Donald began his law enforcement career as a Reserve Deputy for Pima County Sheriff's Office from January of 1990 to September of 1991. On June 12, 1999, he joined the Arizona Department of Public Safety with his first assignment in Casa Grande. In July of 2000, he transferred to District 8 in Tucson. Donald is now being promoted to Sergeant for District 8 in Tucson.

Donald was awarded the Director's Unit Citation while in District 6. In 2004, he was Officer of the Year for District 8 and the Elks Lodge #385.

He was also a member of the 2005 Southern Bureau Squad of the Year. Donald became a nationally recognized expert in the field of operating a watercraft under the influence (OUI) while working for Arizona Game and Fish Department. He is an instructor for the North Western University Traffic Safety Institute and helped to



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## New sergeants ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

develop a battery of seated Field Sobriety Test to detect impaired boat operators. He received an award from the National Water Safety Congress for developing the first "on the water" DUI checkpoint for detecting impaired boat operators in the country.

Donald was born in St. Louis. He has been married to his wife Linda for 20 years. They have twin 12 year old daughters named Callie and Alyssa. Donald has his Associates of Arts from Yavapai Jr. College and his Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife and Fisheries from University of Arizona.

### Michael McLaren, Badge No. 5789

Michael began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on June 3, 2000 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Yuma, where he has remained. Michael is now being promoted to Sergeant for Highway Patrol, District 4 in Yuma.

Michael successfully completed the Drug Recognition course and became a DRE in October of 2002. In 2003, he was assigned as the District Four Torch Run Coordinator and each year he has organized a charity softball tournament raising over \$23,000 for Special Olympics. In 2004, he became a DRE Instructor and assisted in DRE classes and certification events.

He is also a District Four Public Information Officer and a Field Training Officer. He was Sunrise Optimist of the Year in 2004 and District Four Officer of the Year in 2005.

Michael was born in Seattle, Washington and raised in Idaho and Wyoming. Michael has been married to his wife Amy for 16 years. They have five children, Brandon, 15, Lance, 13, John, 10, Cody, 9 and Megan, 5. Michael has his Master's degree in Educational Leadership.

### Kevin McNichols, Badge No. 5522

Kevin began his law enforcement career as a Deputy Sheriff and School Resource Officer for the Mohave County Sheriff's Office. In January of 1999, he joined the Arizona Department of Public Safety with his first assignment for District 6 in Kearny.

In December of 1999, Kevin transferred to District 8 Highway Patrol in Nogales. In April of 2004, Kevin transferred to Tucson Highway Patrol. In April 2006, Kevin transferred to his most recent assignment in Economical Crimes in the Criminal Investigations Bureau. Kevin is now being promoted to Sergeant for District 8 in Nogales.

Kevin was awarded three Director's Unit Citations, one from Kearny and two from Nogales. In 1999, he was recognized as a member of the Squad of the Year by San Manuel Elk's Club and by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety in 2000, 2001 and 2002 for his seatbelt enforcement and education efforts.

In 2002, the McDermott Post of the American Legion of Tucson recognized him as Officer of the Year. While in District 8 his efforts were recognized in DUI Arrest, Felony Arrest, Stolen Vehicles Recovered, Criminal Interdiction and Seatbelt Enforcement.



Kevin was born in Athens, Ohio. He moved to Peach Springs, Arizona in 1977 and then to Kingman in 1979 where he grew up. He has been married to his wife Mary for 13 years. They have a daughter, Courtney, 11 and a son, Joey, 8.

Kevin has his Associates of Applied Science in Law Enforcement from Mohave Community College and his Bachelor of Arts degree in Specialized Studies from the Arizona College of the Bible.

### Chris Melendez, Badge No. 4558

Chris began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on August 31, 1991 as an Officer Trainee at District 19. After graduating from the Academy in 1993, he was assigned to Coolidge and then to Wickenburg in February of 1994. In May of 1995, he transferred to Metro West.

In November of 2000, Chris transferred to the DUI Squad in Metro Phoenix. In January of 2002, Chris was assigned to G.I.T.E.M. Since March of 2003, he has been a Detective with the Special Operations Unit. Chris is now being promoted to Administrative Sergeant remaining in the Special Operations Unit.

Chris received the Special Recognition Award in 1997 from the Highway Patrol Bureau. In 1999, he was awarded the Law and Order Award from Sun City Elks Lodge #2559. Chris also received a Director's Unit Citation in 2004.

Chris was born in Wickenburg. He has been married to his wife Jackie for 8 years. They have two children, Kenadee, 7 and Skylar, 22 months.

### Jeromy Neumann, Badge No. 5931

Jeromy began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety July 21, 2001 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to District 4 in Parker. He transferred from Parker to Quartzsite and worked within District 4 for approximately three years.

In 2004, he transferred to East Phoenix graveyard shift and worked there for a year. While working in East Phoenix, Jeromy was an advisor for a Advanced Basic class, he field trained officers, and was the physical fitness coordinator for the district.

In January of 2006, he transferred to the Advanced Training Unit and assumed the position of Physical Fitness Coordinator. In this assignment, he worked closely with the Use of Force Coordinator in a variety of training for the Advanced Basic classes and in-service training for DPS personnel.

Jeromy is now being promoted to Sergeant for Agency Support, Employee Assistance/Behavioral Services Unit.

Jeromy received the Director's Unit Citation for his participation in the Phlebotomy program. He is also a member of the Use of Force Committee.

Jeromy was born in Phoenix and raised in California. Jeromy has his Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern New Mexico University and his Masters of Science from Grand Canyon University.



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## New sergeants ...

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### Jon Olney, Badge No. 4725

Jon began his law enforcement career as an Officer for the Kingman Police Department in July of 1988. On January 29, 1993, he joined the Arizona Department of Public Safety as an Officer working in Kingman. In 1996, he was assigned to the Northern Arizona Criminal Interdiction Squad where he worked and instructed criminal interdiction throughout the state.

In 1998, he was assigned to District 1 Service Squad. His duties included accident reconstruction, assisting other agencies with accident reconstruction and crime scene mapping, and special investigations within the district. In 2003, he transferred to the Northern Canine Squad where he has remained. Jon is now being promoted to Sergeant for Highway Patrol, Metro West Swings.

Jon was District Officer of the Year in 1994 and 2001. He received the Meritorious Service Award in 1994 and Director's Unit Citation in 2003.

Jon was born and raised in Kingman. He has been married to his wife Pam, for 16 years. They have three daughters, Sara, 13, Hanna, 11 and Emma, 3.

### Jennifer Pinnow, Badge No. 5054

Jennifer began her career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on May 19, 1995 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, she was assigned to Metro East Highway Patrol District.

In January of 2002, Jennifer transferred to the Precursor Chemical Unit, Methamphetamine Lab Task Force. Since September 2005, she has worked as a Detective with the Special Investigations Unit. She is now being promoted to Sergeant for Criminal Investigations, GITEM in Phoenix.

Jennifer was Officer of the Year in 1999 for the Central Highway Patrol Bureau and again in 2002 for the Central Narcotics District.

Jennifer was born in Wisconsin and raised in Phoenix. She has been married to her husband Edward for 16 years. They have one daughter named Nia who is 15 years of age. Jennifer has her Bachelor of Science degree in Justice Studies from Arizona State University.

### Todd Smith, Badge No. 4689

Todd began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on January 6, 1993 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to District 6, Highway Patrol. In 1995, Todd became a canine handler for the District 6 area.

Todd transferred to Criminal Investigations in 1999 and was assigned to the clandestine methamphetamine lab investigative team. In 2002, he was assigned to the Tucson Metropolitan Area Narcotic Trafficking Investigative Squad Task Force.

Todd most recently worked in the Organized Crime Narcotics Enforcement Bureau assigned to investigate money organizations resulting from narcotics and/or human drug smuggling. Todd is now being promoted to Sergeant for District 8, Highway Patrol in Tucson.



Todd received three Director Unit Citation awards and District 6's VDP Officer of the Year from 1996 thru 1998. He was one of the award recipients for the 1994 Southern Highway Patrol Division District of the Year, the 1996 Highway Patrol Squad of the Year, the 1998 Squad of the Year with Canine, the 1999 District of the Year with Criminal Investigations and the 2004 Narcotics Squad of the Year.

Todd was born and raised in Tucson. He served in the US Army, 82nd Airborne Division, for four years. Todd has been married to his wife Pamela for 4 years. They have five children, Cheyenne 11, Cierran, 7, Kaylee, 10, Maggie, 7 and Austin, 1.

### Glen Swavely, Badge No. 4746

Glen began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on March 6, 1993 as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to District 6, Highway Patrol, in Casa Grande. In January of 2006, he transferred to the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau in Casa Grande. Glen is now being promoted to Sergeant for Highway Patrol, District 6 in Casa Grande.

Glen has been DRE certified since 1999 with over 100 drug evaluations administered. He received the District 6, Area 1 Officer of the Year in 1996 and 2003. He has received a Director's Unit Citation as a member of District 6 in 2004. He received M.A.D.D. and Casa Grande Elks Lodge certificates of appreciation for DUI enforcement. Glen also instructed faculties at Casa Grande Union High School and a middle school on drug recognition as part of the Casa Grande Alliance 2000 anti-drug abuse campaign.

Glen was born and raised in Pennsylvania. He served in the US Army for three years at Fort Huachuca. He served in the 11<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade with two tours in Honduras. He has also served in the Honor Guard. Glen has been married to his wife Lisa for 15 years. They have four children Brandy, 23, Breanna, 21, Emma 8, and Eli, 6.

### Rich Valenzuela, Badge No. 4417

Rich began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on June 3, 1990 as an Officer Trainee assigned to District 9 in Sierra Vista. After graduating from the Academy in 1991, he was assigned to Benson. In September 1993, he transferred to Tucson as a Field Training Instructor and a Firearms Instructor. In January of 1996, he transferred to the canine unit as a handler in the Tucson area. In September of 1999, he transferred to Criminal Investigations where he was a member of the South East Arizona Lab Team. This team was responsible for dismantling and investigating clandestine methamphetamine laboratories. In November of 2000, he was a tactical member for the Special Weapons and Tactics Unit in Tucson and worked the 15 day Lewis Prison Hostage standoff in January of 2004. In April of 2004, he



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## New sergeants ...

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was assigned as Detective for the Pima County Counter Narcotics Alliance Task Force (formally known as M.A.N.T.I.S.). Rich is now being promoted to Sergeant for Criminal Investigations, GITEM in Tucson.

Rich has received five Director's Unit Citations, Elks Lodge Officer of the Year and Southern Narcotics District High Shooting Award for the cumulative score of 242.14 as the District's Firearms Instructor. He is also a member of the Operations Unit Squad of the Year.

Rich was born and raised in Tucson. He has been married to his wife Christina, for 16 years. They have two daughters, Reyana Dawn, 9 and Jasmine Marie, 7.

### Anthony J. Williams, Badge No. 4305

Anthony began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on September 22, 1989 as a Cadet Officer.

After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Casa Grande. In March of 1991, Anthony transferred to Tucson Motors. In March of 1996, Anthony transferred to Tucson Criminal Investigations Division working in various units such as: Liquor Unit, Narcotics, Meth Lab Task Force and Auto Theft Task Force.

In November of 2003, he transferred to the Highway Patrol Division in Tuc-



son. Since July of 2005, he has been assigned to the Tucson Criminal Investigations Division working in the Financial Crimes Unit. Anthony is now being promoted to Sergeant for Highway Patrol, District 8 in Tucson.

Anthony was born and raised in Tucson. He has been married to his wife Lourdes for 9 years. They have two daughters, Lindsey, 8 and Allison, 4.

### Daryll Willis, Badge No. 4821

Daryll began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on July 24, 1993 as an Officer Trainee for Prescott. After graduating from the Academy in 1994, he was assigned to Douglas. In December of 1996, he transferred to Metro West for a year and then to Gila Bend. Since 2004, he has been with Metro West. Daryll is now being promoted to Sergeant for Metro West, Shift One, Central.

Daryll is a Field Training Instructor and Lead Taser Instructor for the West Valley. While Daryll was in Gila Bend, his squad received numerous awards including: the Director's Unit Citation, Special Recognition Award from the Highway Patrol, and Auto Theft Investigators of the Year from the Arizona Auto Theft Investigators Association.

Daryll was born and raised in Douglas. He has been married to his wife Jenny for 12 years. They have two children, Justice, 11 and Alyssa, 9. He has his Associates of Applied Science in Law Enforcement Technology from Rio Salado.



## ALEA recruits learn valuable lessons during search for missing man

by Dean S. Nyhart, DPS Commander, ALEA

On Thursday, Oct. 26, at 8 a.m. I received a request from the Phoenix Police Department for assistance in finding a missing 85-year-old elderly man, Tom George Willis, missing for 16 hours and suffering from dementia. The subject lived just outside the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy (ALEA) grounds and had left to go for a walk the day before at around 4 p.m. In fact, many of the Academy staff were familiar with Mr. Willis and had exchanged pleasantries with him on a regular basis while on physical conditioning runs. The Phoenix Police Department had been searching all night through utilizing air and ground units with no success.

They requested help in searching the more rugged north face of South Mountain Park using fit recruits and staff who are infinitely more familiar with the trails and terrain in the park. After an initial briefing to assess Academy resources, it was determined that Recruit Classes #417 and #419, consisting of 71 recruits, and 19 various staff members could participate for several hours.

The Academy recruits and staff changed into the appropriate uniform for the activity, formed up, and marched to the area. They were divided into teams and each team given a recruit training officer for a supervisor, each two teams a sergeant, and each four teams a lieutenant. The Phoenix PD Command Post provided them with photographs of the missing subject, additional Phoenix PD radios, and a search map divided into four

grid areas. The search by the Academy personnel started at about 9 a.m.

Sgt. John Lyle and Ofc. Brian Blunt of the Gilbert Police Department but attached to the Academy, started out 10 minutes early to scout a commonly used trail called Foothills Trail. After traveling partially down the trail, Sgt. Lyle and Ofc. Blunt stopped and decided to send one of them climbing one of the many rock outcroppings permeating the side of the mountain to gain a tactical height advantage and use binoculars to scan the desert floor. Ofc. Blunt began the arduous ascent and after a 15-minute climb he yelled down to Sgt. Lyle that he thought he had found the missing subject.

Sgt. Lyle asked where, assuming it was out in the desert somewhere, and Ofc. Blunt yelled back that the subject was up where he was under a tree and appeared alive but, cold, disoriented, tired, and dehydrated. At about 10 a.m., they relayed their information to the command post and began an assessment of the missing man's physical condition and treating him for minor injuries, dehydration, and mild hypothermia. The Command Post immediately dispatched additional fire and police rescue personnel to the scene. It took over an hour to treat, secure, and remove the subject from the rugged terrain.

This missing subject was not visible from the air or any trail due to the unexpected height he had climbed and the large boulders and



### Eternally grateful

Officer Blunt of the ALEA staff receives a hug of appreciation from Mary Willis for his role in helping find her lost husband.

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## Part of the raise DPS employees received in March soon to be at risk

*New performance pay plan will provide a means for all employees to keep their money*

In March, 2006, all state employees received a 2.5% raise under a performance pay plan approved by the Legislature. However, beginning in April, 2007, that 2.5% is "at risk" and state agencies will have to begin measuring performance to determine who will continue receiving the pay increase.

State agencies were given until September 1 to develop plans and submit the proposals to the Department of Administration. Between September and December those proposals were reviewed, adjusted, and subject to approval by both the DOA and a legislative oversight committee.

The DPS met this challenge by assembling a task force representing every division and employee organization with Chief Pennie Gillette-Stroud as the chairperson. The task force was charged with ensuring compliance with legislative mandates and determining measures employees had to meet for continuation of the performance pay. The resulting plan received DOA approval in October and will begin January 1, 2007.

The DPS plan applies department-wide rather than on a unit or individual employee basis. In other words, everyone at DPS will receive performance pay or no one will. The task force believes this is the only fair and equitable way since department operations are so diverse.

Performance will be measured quarterly beginning January 1 and transition from an automatic pay raise provision in the first year to "at risk" continuation in subsequent years will be seamless as long as performance targets are met. Under the DPS plan, employees will continue receiving performance pay in their bi-weekly checks, as long as the program is funded and the department meets its quarterly objectives.

There are three department-wide performance measures, drawn from the DPS Strategic Plan; (1) customer service, (2) efficiency, and (3) employee development.

Customer service will be determined by two surveys targeting 85% "satisfaction" with the DPS and its employees. The first will be agency surveys sent electronically from the Director to the head of every law enforcement agency in the state. Approximately 40 agencies will be surveyed each quarter. The second will be public surveys given to participants in the citizen academies held throughout the state to ensure a regional representation.

Efficiency will be measured in terms of dollars with a target of \$500,000 annually. The objective is to demonstrate cost sav-



ings, cost avoidance, or cost recovery measures totaling \$125,000 each quarter in FY07. This is not a budget reduction, rather, it is documentation of efforts to use our resources more efficiently and consider alternatives.

Employee development is based on the principle of ensuring that employees receive at least 8 hours of in-service training during FY07. In-service training includes AOT for sworn and the new ACT program for civilians. The target is participation by at least 90% of our employees which allows for turnover, new hires, vacancies, absences, and seasonal scheduling.

An important part of any plan is to be aware of unanticipated factors which could have an impact. The DPS, as a state level law enforcement agency, is subject to natural and man-made disasters as well as seasonal variations that might keep our employees

from being able to meet the performance measures. The DPS plan features a "catastrophic events" provision in which the Director could declare an emergency and petition DOA for a temporary adjustment in the quarterly targets. In addition, seasonal variations impact areas such as in-service training or cost saving measures so the DPS plan has a provision for meeting two of the three targets in any quarter.

The Department has to certify compliance on a quarterly basis throughout FY07-08. At the end of that time an annual evaluation will determine new or continued performance measures for the upcoming year. In the event adjustments are necessary before the annual evaluation, there are provisions for petition to DOA and the legislative oversight committee.

As you can see, we are all in this together. Either everyone will receive performance pay, or no one will receive it depending on the agency's results each quarter in the areas of customer service, efficiency, and employee development. The Department will make every effort to keep everyone informed but needs your help in meeting the performance objectives.

## Civilian promotions ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

offense charges including contacting the appointed court, requesting court documents, reviewing rap sheets and accessing criminal history information. She is now being promoted to ACJIS Compliance Specialist for the Access Integrity Unit.

Veronica is a rare native being born and raised in Phoenix. She is also engaged to be married to fiancé, Adair Wapaha.

### Kevin Rogers, Badge No. 6550

Kevin began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on May 7, 2005 as a Project Manager for the Public Safety Communications Commission. As a Project Manager, his main duty was to oversee and evaluate the design of our next generation statewide communications system while working with a communication consulting engineering firm. He is now being promoted to Telecommunications Manager for the Criminal Justice Support Division.

Kevin has been a member of the Association of Public Safety Communication Officials since 1988. He was also the first in Arizona to obtain the APCO International Certification in public safety telecommunications.

Kevin was born in Newport Beach, CA and raised in Flagstaff.

### Terri Westsik, Badge No. 6588

Terri began her career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on June 25, 2005 as a Criminal Records Specialist for the Criminal History Records Section. As a Criminal Records Specialist, Terri entered citations and warnings in the Kots and Fortis Databases. She is now being promoted to Police Communications Dispatcher for the Central Communications Center.

Terri previously worked for a small police department in California as a dispatcher. She has always liked dispatching and is excited to do it again.

Terri was born in Torrance, California and raised in Novato, California. She has been married to DPS Officer William Westsik for fourteen years with four children Kortney 16, Joe 13, Gabby 8 and Allie 7.

### Additional Promotions

Other recently promoted civilian employees at DPS who were unable to attend one of the agency's formal promotional ceremonies include Jeanine Eagar who was elevated to Administrative Services Officer, Sabrina Cillessen who was elevated to Supervising Criminalist, and Dorothy Thrower who was elevated to Administrative Services Officer.



## IACP awards ...

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The applications were judged by IACP officials on six essential categories with emphasis placed on how an agency's work within each category has improved traffic safety. The six categories were: Agency Policy Statements, Officer Training, Public Information and Education Campaigns, Enforcement Activity, Program Effectiveness, and overall Quality of Application Documents.

"I would like to thank all DPS employees, both sworn and civilian, for the role they play in allowing our agency to maintain the high level of professionalism required to receive continuous recognition from the IACP," said DPS Director Roger Vanderpool in response to the award. "Our Department's recent award from the IACP is proof that our productive efforts toward traffic safety, and public safety in general, don't go unnoticed in the collective eyes of the national and international community. This is an award our agency should feel very proud of."

The second award presented to DPS by officials from the IACP in Boston was the 2006 Vehicle Theft Award of Merit. DPS accepted this award from the IACP on behalf of the Arizona Vehicle Theft Task Force (AVTTF), a multi-agency law enforcement unit managed from within DPS' Criminal Investigations Division.

The AVTTF, which is comprised of detectives from DPS and 16 other law enforcement agencies in Arizona, received the honor from the IACP for demonstrating unparalleled excellence in its auto theft prevention and enforcement programs during 2005.

Among a variety of other significant accomplishments, the task force was recognized for recovering about 3,000 stolen vehicles in 2005 valued at nearly \$30 million. In addition, the task force was also recognized for the success of its public awareness activities, education events, and community partnerships that were developed to reduce vehicle theft and other vehicle-related crimes in Arizona.

It should be noted that this was the first time that the AVTTF has received this lofty honor from the IACP.

## DPS at a glance

Retired DPS Officer Chris Mueller was recently elected justice of the peace for the Hassayampa Justice Court in Wickenburg. He beat four other candidates who were trying to replace John Henry, who stepped down from his position.



### National recognition

Standing with an official from the IACP (far left) in Boston, Massachusetts, members of DPS proudly display some of the hardware the agency received for capturing first place in the mid-sized "state police/highway patrol" category of the 2005 National Law Enforcement Challenge. Those accepting the highway safety award from the IACP on behalf of DPS were (from left) DPS Sgt. Jason W. Webb, DPS Commander Michael Orose, DPS Publications Editor Jim Jertson, DPS Lt. Jeff King, and DPS Deputy Director David A. Felix.



### Best in the nation

DPS Lt. Bob Ticer (second from left) and DPS Deputy Director David A. Felix (far right) accepted the 2006 Vehicle Theft Award of Merit from the IACP in Boston, Massachusetts on behalf of the Arizona Vehicle Theft Task Force. Standing next to Ticer, who supervises the multi-agency Arizona Vehicle Theft Task Force, and Felix are two top officials from the IACP.

## Wife of DPS' deputy director authors touching autobiography

*Nationally endorsed book is helping people who have suffered significant loss*

by Kellen Chavez

Sitting calmly in the Code 7 Café of the DPS headquarters building, Sharon Knutson-Felix reflects on the autobiography she published earlier this year.

"It was worth the tears, for what I hope that it will bring to other people and the help that it might provide them," she says.

With every hardship in life there is pain but also the opportunity to embrace everything that has happened and use it to become a stronger person.

The holiday season has arrived and for all the joy it brings people there are always those who feel pain because of what they have lost.

Earlier this year, Sharon, who serves as director of the 100 Club and is wife of DPS Deputy Director David Felix, published her autobiography titled "Gifts My Father Gave Me," with the hope that it could serve as a comforting tool to those who have suffered significant loss.

Heartbreak and tragedy provide the basis for the tale but it is the overwhelming resolve to overcome, forgive and love that truly embodies what Sharon has written.

"In giving back, that's how you find your feeling and strength. You have to take tragedies and use those experiences to become a better person," Sharon said.

Sharon drew her main inspiration to write the book from organizing and working the DPS Family Education Day for family members of new officers.

This orientation helps educate families on the effects that a law enforcement career could potentially have on the family.

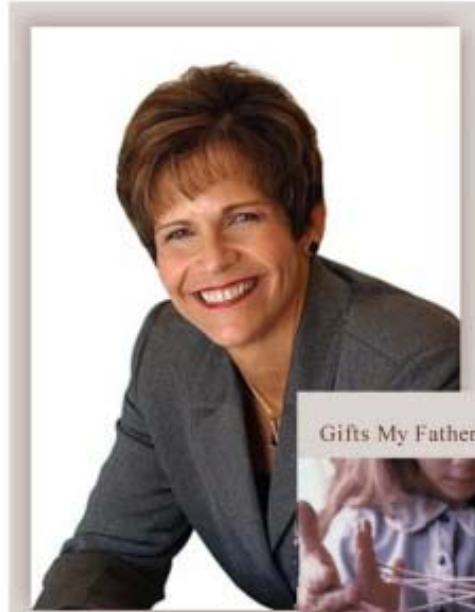
At this event, Sharon would share her stories of loss and perseverance to live on. Years of telling stories and witnessing the impact her words had on her listeners gave Sharon the idea to put her life story down on paper.

She said, "In writing this book, I just wanted to give back to the agency and public safety as a whole and provide comfort for those who have had loss."

The actual process of writing the book started after Sharon visited ground zero after the attacks of Sept. 11. After listening to part of her story, a friend encouraged her to seek out the help of Allen Kates, a writing coach who wrote the book, "Copshock."

Sharon said, "I never dreamed of working with him on a book really or anything."

The two met, after Kates had emailed Sharon about making a contribution to the 100 Club, and Sharon asked if Kates would



**Sharon Knutson-Felix**

be willing to review some of the writing she had done about her life. He agreed but his initial comments were not quite what Sharon expected.

She said, "So I had to pay him to review what I had written and it was really sad. He practically made me cry because he sent it back to me with about five pages of comments about my writing being horrible."

But learning experience aside, Kates agreed to be Sharon's ghost writer over the entire process.

The book is dedicated to Sharon's son Ricky, who was killed in a car accident at the age of six, and her deceased husband, Doug Knutson, a DPS officer killed in the line of duty.

But Sharon also wrote the book for her father.

"I really wrote the book for my dad and I kind of just wanted my kids to know about their grandpa and to know about their mom's life growing up," she said.

That process, however, meant 8 months of weekly trips to Tucson where Sharon would talk into a tape recorder for hours at a time.

She said, "I had to tell about 50 years practically and a lot of things I was talking about were some hard times in my life so, sometimes, I would go home so wiped out."

She added there were times where the drive home was difficult because she was

blinded by tears.

In the end, however, the process paid off.

Sharon said, "I got some national endorsements and just had an overwhelming positive reception about the book and how it helps people who've had losses or have made people appreciate the family or given people hope in their life and encouraged them."

All money earned from book sales will be donated to the Central Christian Church of the East Valley to help build its south campus.

Sharon and Kates also sent the book to playwrights. The odds are slim that the story will ever actually end up becoming a movie, but Sharon said that some have shown interest in writing the book for screen.

On a closing note, Sharon said, "It's already accomplished everything that I ever wanted it to and ever dreamed. You know, just that I got it done and that my dad was able to read it, that was my biggest goal."

Telling her story and helping others has become her life mission.

She said, "Writing this book has just been the culmination of that mission."

## Roadside memorials to fallen DPS officers in need of attention

As you are probably already aware, beautiful sandstone memorials are located near the site of all line-of-duty deaths at the Department. The memorials honor each officer from DPS who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

For the very first time, one of the memorials has been vandalized.

The damage to the memorial has helped generate interest in finalizing a new, robust list of volunteers, preferably made up of active or retired employees of DPS, who are willing to take care of and look after the memorials located in their part of the state.

In addition to fixing the sandstone structure that has been vandalized, all memorials need to be resealed and re-lettered.

If you are interested in volunteering your services for this important effort, please call or e-mail retired DPS Lt. Col. Larry Thompson. His phone is 1-888-711-2778 and his e-mail is larrytazus@yahoo.com



## Bi-national agreement signed to enhance crime fighting on border

by Estella Cervantes

On November 15th and 16th, DPS Director Roger Vanderpool attended the Plenary Session of the Arizona-Mexico Commission held in Puerto Penasco, Sonora.

A new bi-national agreement was signed by Governor Janet Napolitano, and Sonora Governor Eduardo Bours Castelo, to enhance ongoing efforts to improve law enforcement communication across the border and aid in information sharing to combat border crime between the two states.

The declaration of cooperation was entered into by the Government of the State of Arizona through the Department of Public Safety (involving Chiefs of Police from Nogales, Douglas, and San Luis) with the Government of the State of Sonora through the Executive Secretariat of Public Safety (involving Chiefs of Police from San Luis, Agua Prieta, and Nogales).

Part of the agreement is to establish a Cross Border Communications Committee. This new committee will be chaired by DPS Director Roger Vanderpool; Sonora DPS Francisco Figueroa Souquet; and ACJC Executive Director John Blackburn Jr.

Director Vanderpool is taking the lead on this and DPS will host the first meeting February 1, 2007. The committee shall:

- Institutionalize border-wide, the protocol of the C4 radio system, based on the San Luis model.
- Develop a plan of action to address border crimes identified using the C4 radio system.
- Meet quarterly to assess the established protocol and improve the system.
- Conduct cross-training exercises to promote a stronger partnership and collaboration to increase security and safety in the border region.
- Both states will track progress and maintain statistics in order to identify challenges and opportunities to further secure the region. Once designed, these statistics will be submitted to ACJC on a weekly basis for analysis.

In an effort to collaborate and promote stronger partnerships, Director Vanderpool is one step ahead and has already committed to provide training to over 50 law enforcement officials from Mexico.

This training is scheduled for January 17-18, and will be conducted in Alamos, Sonora, to allow more of their officers to participate. Training will be provided by Sergeant Javier Garayzar, Officer Wence Camacho, and Officer Martin Marquez, on Impact Weapons (PR24), Traffic Stops, High Risk Stops, Handcuffing Techniques, and



### Bi-national meeting

Some of those attending the Plenary Session of the Arizona-Mexico Commission in Puerto Penasco, Sonora had a chance to get together for a photo. From left (in top photo) is Antonio Gutierrez, Director of State Preventive Police in Sonora; Roger Vanderpool, DPS Director; Francisco Figueroa, Executive Secretariat of Public Safety in Sonora; DPS Officer Martin Marquez; DPS Lt. Rocky Quijada; Chief Medrano, San Luis, Sonora. In the bottom right photo, DPS Director Roger Vanderpool is signing the Cooperative Agreement which served as the focal point of the bi-national meeting.

### Defensive Tactics.

The Department of Public Safety also entered into an agreement with San Luis Police Department to have access to San Luis' Operational Communications Center that utilizes the bi-national communication system.

This access will be provided at no cost to DPS, for a minimum of one year. The agreement was signed December 1, 2006.

*When one door of happiness closes, another opens, but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us. - Helen Keller*

## Commander Dave Witter retires from DPS after 41 years of service

Sitting in a booth in the Code 7 Café at the DPS headquarters building, Dave Witter said, "I've done so many different things during my career here, and that's the beauty of being a sworn officer in this agency. You have the opportunity to do so many different jobs."

Dave's 40-plus year career with the Department came to a close on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Born in 1943, Dave did not begin his life in Arizona, however. When he was 10-years-old, his family moved from Sioux City, Iowa to a Phoenix he described simply as "not being that big at the time."

After graduating from Phoenix Union High School in 1961, Dave took in a semester of college before joining the Marine Corps.

Though he is the grandson of a Midwest police officer, he did not take a long hard look at a career in law enforcement until after he finished his service with the Marines.

One night in 1965, Dave was sitting with a group of friends, catching up on what they had all been doing. Two of the friends told him they had applied for the highway patrol.

Dave said, "My friends said the pay was \$540 a month. I was just out of the Marine Corps making \$93 a month, so there it was."

He officially joined the Arizona Highway Patrol on Sept. 16, 1965 as a cadet officer. He was assigned to Flagstaff upon graduation from the patrol academy. Six months to the day, after being hired, he married his wife, Bev. They will celebrate 41 years of marriage on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

He transferred to Sedona in 1967, which turned out to be one of his favorite assignments. "It was a small town, and I was the only patrolman in the town," Dave said. "A lot of officers have no idea that there's another world out there in a one-man duty station and a two-lane road. It was really a good assignment."

Over six years later, in 1973, Dave transferred to Phoenix to serve as an instructor for the Arizona Law Enforcement Officers Advisory Council (ALEOAC) and DPS Training Academies.

In 1976 he was assigned as a field representative for ALEOAC and later that year, on July 1, Dave was promoted to sergeant. With his promotion, Dave served as supervisor of a Criminal Intelligence Section squad.

Dave only returned to highway patrol once after beginning his time with CI.

He said, "That's really been my love, working with patrol. It's being out and having the freedom to go where you want to so long as you stay within your area."

In 1982, Dave was reassigned as budget officer for the Special Service Bureau. Later



**Dave Witter**

that year, he moved to the Criminal Intelligence Analysis Unit.

Moving up the promotion ladder, Dave became a lieutenant in 1984 and served as commander of the Criminal Intelligence Analysis Unit.

A year later he was assigned as region commander for the Investigations and Liquor Enforcement Division and in 1987 was transferred to the Management Services Division as the administrative lieutenant.

Also in 1987, Dave had the chance to experience something truly special by attending the FBI National Academy.

The Academy, widely considered to be the most prestigious law-enforcement management school in the country, draws law enforcement managers from around the world.

Dave said, "attending the National Academy was a great opportunity and an eye-opening experience."

Dave returned to ALEOAC in 1990 as the administrative services lieutenant and moved around that division until he transferred back to highway patrol in 1994 as District 5 commander.

He said, "I loved that job, I thought I would stay there forever."

Not long after, however, CI needed a supervisor with extensive experience in the division. Dave was asked to return to intelligence and in 1995 he was assigned as Intelligence Section Commander.

As was the case for much of his career, Dave did not stay put for long and in 1997 he was reassigned as Internal Affairs Commander.

In 1998, Dave was promoted to captain

and moved into the Director's Office as the Professional Standards Commander.

In 2000, Dave moved back to CI for a final time as the Investigation Bureau commander. He spent the next 5 years in that position until being assigned as Chief of Staff in the Criminal Justice Support Division. Dave said, "I wish that opportunity had occurred earlier in my career. That was an unbelievable assignment." He finished his career in that assignment.

As for retirement, Dave simply plans to enjoy it. He said in addition to enjoying his work, a part of the reason he had such a long career was so when he retired from DPS, he would not have to find other employment in order to live comfortably during retirement.

For any project Dave decides to take on, he will do so in the retirement gift his wife, Bev, gave him on his last day back in June.

"The last day that I was here, on June 30<sup>th</sup>, was the Highway Patrol 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary barbecue. My family came to the barbecue then took me out to the front of the headquarters building. Sitting out there in the parking lot was a brand-new 2006 Ford ¾-ton, King Ranch, Diesel pickup."

"I walked right passed it, I didn't even see it. But when I realized the truck was my gift, it made me think, 'Man, maybe I'll come back and retire a couple more times.'"

Dave has two daughters from which he has been gifted with six granddaughters.

He explained, "All of my granddaughters are involved with sports, so sometimes it feels like we go from ballgame to ballgame to ballgame."

In fact, last year two of Dave's granddaughters were on the varsity volleyball team for Xavier College Preparatory and won the state championship. This year three of the granddaughters were on the team. It was the first time three sisters had all been on the same varsity team at Xavier.

To cap his overall plans, Dave said, smiling, "[For retirement] I'm going to do whatever I want to. My wife and I are going to do some traveling, if I ever get done with the honey-do list."

## Many more retirement stories to appear soon

Among those who have recently retired from DPS with more than 30 years of service and have yet to be featured in *The Digest* are: Cmdr. Beau Johnson, Det. Ruben Valente, Officer Randan Holmes, Officer Ronald Lewis, Officer Larry Jenkins, Officer Tom Davis, Fingerprint Tech Joyce Wharton, and Operations Assistant Charlie Cleveland.



## Sergeant Kelly Kasun retires from DPS after 33 years of service

Sgt. Kelly Kasun retired Sept. 30 after 33 years of service to the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

Kasun's career with the Department began as a cadet officer on Sept. 1, 1973. After graduating from the law enforcement academy, Kasun was assigned to the Highway Patrol in Page.

In 1975, Kasun transferred to Black Canyon City and then to Prescott in 1977. Kasun accepted a position with the Criminal Intelligence Unit in 1978.

Kasun was promoted to sergeant in 1980 and returned to the Highway Patrol Division as an Administrative Sergeant in 1981. He was made Prescott Operational Sergeant in 1983.

During his years of dedicated service in the growing community of Prescott, he was

selected as interim Chief of Police for Chino Valley Police Department in 1982, 1984 and 1990.

Later in 1990, Kasun was selected as the criminal investigations supervisor for the Prescott Area Narcotics Task Force (P.A.N.T.).

As a supervisor in Prescott, Kasun made his fourth and final tour as interim chief of police for Chino Valley PD.

In addition, Kasun also served as interim Town Marshal for the Camp Verde Marshal's Office and in 2002 he became supervisor of Prescott's Northern Narcotics/Investigations Unit.

Kasun was awarded Director's Unit Citations in 2000 and 2004 for his work with P.A.N.T. and Northern Investigations Districts respectively.



Kelly Kasun

## Officer Ed Stock retires from agency after 41 years of service

Officer Ed Stock retired from DPS in August after 41 years of service.

Stock began his career with the Department after spending two years with the Phoenix Police Department and was immediately assigned to DPS' Liquor Investigations Division.

Two years later, Stock transferred to the Narcotics Investigation Division where he was assigned to infiltrate radical groups.

After that he transferred to Training Division for six months and then spent the following two years working the Phoenix freeways as a highway patrolman.

Stock transferred to Criminal Investigations next where he worked in a number of assignments including DEA Intelligence Task Force, FBI Counter Terrorism Task Force, and the Phoenix Police Department

Street Gang Task Force.

Stock was also instrumental in initiating a program to change the Department-carried handgun from a revolver to a semi-automatic pistol.

With exceptional shooting abilities, Stock was assigned to SWAT and the DPS Rifle Team. In 1975, however, Stock was selected for a position on the DPS Bomb Squad where spent the remainder of his career.

Stock spent most of his career switching between assignments with DPS and the U.S. Army. He was activated for tours in Bosnia and Iraq during his time with DPS. He retired as a Chief Warrant Officer in 2004 after 39 years in the military.

Stock and his wife Kathy have had two children by which they have been blessed with five grandchildren.



Ed Stock

## Officer Larry Landers retires from agency after 33 years of service

Larry Landers retired on June 30 after completing more than 33 years of service to the Department.

Landers began his career with DPS on Aug. 1, 1972. After graduating from the academy, he was assigned to Gila Bend.

In 1976, Landers transferred to Criminal Investigation Narcotics Bureau in Yuma where he was assigned to one of the first multi-agency narcotics task forces in the state: the Yuma City and County Task Force.

Landers remained there for only a year and in 1977 he transferred to Phoenix narcotics and was assigned to the Undercover Service Squad.

Following that, Landers was assigned to the DEA task force in 1979. Four years later he transferred to the Intelligence Division where he followed the activities of the

"Possee Comitatus," "Aryan Nations," and "Arizona Patriots," in the state.

In 1989, Landers was assigned to DPS/ U.S. Customs Task Force, Air Smuggling Unit. Later, he was assigned as full-time coordinator of the Special Operations Unit (S.O.U.).

While continuing his duties with S.O.U., Landers transferred to the Career Criminal Squad/Fugitive Detail in 1992. After serving ten years with S.O.U., Landers was assigned to the DPS Narcotics Squad.

In 1996, his squad received the Criminal Investigation Division "Squad of the Year" award. In 1997, he received a certificate of nomination from "Top Cops Awards" for outstanding achievement in law enforcement.

In 2004, Landers returned to Intelligence where he was assigned to the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center.



Larry Landers

## DPS officer recovering better than expected after horrifying crash

"I was knocked colder than a wedge for about 15 minutes so I didn't get to experience all of the initial trauma."

That's what DPS Officer Brady Bullard remembers of the frightening, on-duty accident he was part of Oct. 26 when a PT Cruiser



**Brady Bullard**

rear-ended his patrol vehicle while he was parked along Interstate 17 near Camp Verde.

Bullard was working on paperwork in his vehicle after pulling over a tractor trailer at the time he was hit. The collision

partially pinned his patrol vehicle under the tractor-trailer and he was trapped there for about 20 minutes before being pulled out by firefighters.

Nearly two months later, the 36-year-old Bullard who is assigned to DPS' Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau has made a remarkable recovery.

Despite suffering a cracked lower disc, broken ribs, a broken orbital bone and nerve damage to his back and face, Bullard has

recovered very well.

The one problem he still faces, however, is the muscle damage he suffered surrounding his eye.

Doctors inserted titanium to heal the bone fractures in his face but Bullard said he still has double vision any time he looks down. In early January, Bullard will undergo oculoplastic eye surgery in an attempt to repair the muscles causing his impaired vision.

The procedure is risky and Bullard said the doctors have told him the muscles surrounding the eye are sensitive and a mistake could simply relocate the problem to a

different area.

He said, "The doctors say I have a 50/50 shot at a full recovery of my vision."

If all goes according to plan, however, this setback is not something that will keep Bullard off the road for much longer.

"Returning to work is on hold for rehab and recovery, but my intentions have always been to return to work," said Bullard, who has an identical twin brother who is also an officer with DPS.

Michelle Wells, 37, of Scottsdale, the female driver of the PT Cruiser, also suffered serious injuries in the afternoon collision that occurred in the southbound lanes.



*THIS WAS THE SCENE OF BULLARD'S INTERSTATE 17 CRASH ON OCT. 26*

## ALEA rescue ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

palo verde tree that obscured any view of him unless one were right on top of him. In fact, the Phoenix PD Air-Units had been over this exact area several times throughout the night and morning hours.

The subject was unable to move nor call out for help and in my opinion if he had not been fortuitously and miraculously found through the assistance of the Academy and the particularly noteworthy efforts of Class Sergeant John Lyle and Recruit Training Officer Brian Blunt, Mr. Tom George Willis might not have been found and within a short time likely would have died.

Sgt. Lyle and Ofc. Blunt are men of humble persuasion, but the significance of their self-initiative cannot be minimized nor dismissed and they deserve recognition for their outstanding efforts which directly led to Mr. Willis' recovery alive.

Through their involvement in this, the recruits at ALEA learned an extraordinary practical lesson common to much in law enforcement; the ability to work together towards accomplishing a common goal and the value of teamwork, good planning, methodical implementation, and dose of propitious luck.



## Holiday trains

DPS Police Planner Steve Gendler operates the controls of a 600-foot model railroad set while a family interacts with the holiday-themed, candy-filled display. For the past 11 years, Gendler and his friends have been operating model railroad equipment at the Fountain Hills Community Center during the holidays. This year, Gendler's train display, which was viewed by more than 1,000 people, featured miniature billboards carrying DPS recruiting messages.



## Inside DPS

### 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

McNulty, Dennis B., 1959, Officer

### 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

Florez, Henry J., 3119, Officer

### 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Herrera, Charles A., 3910, Sergeant

### NEW EMPLOYEES

Abdullah Jr., Saleem M., 6827, Cadet Officer

Black, Judy F., 6852, Criminal Records Specialist

Block, Martin G., 6855, Computer Network Operator

Blumer, Erin D., 6820, Administrative Assistant

Borchardt, Laurie L., 6818, Police Communications Dispatcher

Borquez, Nathan D., 6829, Cadet Officer

Boyd, Marissa S., 6826, Criminal Records Specialist

Burwell, Sloane, 6845, Systems Software Analyst

Burrue, Jimmy O., 6830, Cadet Officer

Dudas Jr., George E., 6831, Cadet Officer

Gigous, John C., 6832, Cadet Officer

Graham, Herlinda M., 6822, Laboratory Technician

Grant, Hugh C., 6846, Officer

Hainke, Brandon M., 6833, Cadet Officer

Horton, Christina L., 6823, Laboratory Technician

Jacobs, Aaron M., 6834, Cadet Officer

Martinez, Deana, 6853, Support Services Assistant

Maxam, William M., 6835, Cadet Officer

McCall, Troy B., 6847, Officer

McMahon, Nancy K., 6844, Administrative Secretary

Morales, Danny S., 6836, Cadet Officer

Oakeson, Mitchell R., 6837, Cadet Officer

Pierson, Willis E., 6821, Administrative Services Officer

Puntoriero, Fred, 6848, Officer

Rainey Jr., William K., 6849, Officer

Renner, Robert B., 6838, Cadet Officer

Salazar, Steven, 6839, Cadet Officer

Sheffield, Consuelo C., 6854, Office Coordinator

Srinivasan, Krishnan, 6824, Applications Sys-

tems Analyst

Stratton, David R., 6851, Security Supervisor

Vickers-Drye, Stephanie L., 6825, Criminal Records Specialist

Wilson, Christopher A., 6850, Officer

### DEPARTURES

Arzola, Gabriel, 6828, Cadet Officer

Ashford, Zaida L., 6707, Police Communications Dispatcher

Christensen, Mark W., 6736, Officer

Colon, Monica J., 6381, Human Resources Assistant

Cooper, Latoya M., 5888, Police Communications Dispatcher

Davis, James E., 734, Asset Tracking Specialist

Hernandez, James A., 5081, Sergeant II

Hilbert, Michael C., 6323, Custodian

Hughes, Jennifer C., 6614, Criminal Records Specialist

White, Jason S., 6708, Evidence Custodian

Williams, Michael A., 5527, Officer

Wood, James K., 6336, Officer

### RETIREMENTS

Kasun, Kelly W., 1448, Sergeant II

Lewis, Ronald C., 1155, Officer

Palmer, Paul E., 342, Video Production Specialist

Stoddard, William J., 4865, Officer

Zondlo, John G., 3843, Criminal Analyst Supervisor

### BIRTHS

Officer Chad Johnson and wife Kelley became proud parents on Sept. 19 just after 5 p.m. They welcomed new daughter, Grace Ellen into the world. She weighed 5 lbs., 11oz. and was 18 in. long.

Officer Mike Fields and his wife Carla welcomed their second child into the world on Oct. 11. Jett Michael was born just after 10 p.m. and joins big brother J.T. in the Fields family.

Officer Ken Henscheid and wife, Carra, welcomed a new baby girl to their family on Oct. 13. Little Kendra Paige weighed 7 lb. 11 oz. and was 20 in. long.

Officer Marty Bowling and wife, Jessica, gave birth to their first child, Ashlyn Renee on Oct. 18 at 3:22 p.m. Ashlyn weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz. and was 20 in. in length.

District 6 officers David and Virginia Callister welcomed Olivia Yvonne into the world on the morning of Oct. 19. Olivia weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz.

Sgt. Casey Kasun and his wife Cindy had their fourth child in the morning hours of Nov. 13. The Kasun's welcomed Cooper Joseph into the world at 3:21 a.m. Cooper weighed in at 7 lbs. 7 oz.

Officer Andrew Shurtz and wife Connie gave birth to a new baby boy on the night of Nov. 22. Gavin Riley weighed in at 7 lbs. 6 oz. and measured 19 3/4 in. long.

Officer Steve Jarol and wife Stephanie welcomed their third child, and second daughter into the world on Nov. 24. Little Julia Lesley weighed 6 lbs. 10 oz. and measured 19 3/4 in. long. Julia joins sister, Riley, and brother, Jacob, in the Jarol family.

District 7 Motor Officer Raul Garcia and wife, Lorena, became proud parents of a son on Nov. 30. Chael Gabriel weighed 8 lbs. 7.2 oz. and measured 21 in. long.

Research and Planning Lt. Jenna Mitchell and husband, Paul, welcomed a new baby girl into the world on Dec. 1. Little Samantha weighed in at 9 lbs. and measured 20 in. long.

Officer Gerald Johnson and his wife, Francine, gave birth to a baby girl on the evening of Dec. 4. Ali Johnson came into the world weighing 6 lbs. 9.5 oz. and measured 19 in. long. She joins sisters Donya, Madison and brother Skyler in the Johnson family.

### OBITUARIES

Matilda Buckmister, the grandmother of Officer Aaron Buckmister, passed away on the morning of Oct. 13.

Tom Domikaitis, the husband of retired DPS employee Dolores Domikaitis, #3501, passed away on Oct. 13.

Mary Ann Moore, the sister of Sgt. Adam Kurgan and Joanne Wermes, passed away on Oct. 17 after a battle with pancreatic cancer.

DPS retired Sgt. Dick Pruitt passed away on Nov. 18.

Retired Captain Bill Woodard, #70, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 7

DPS retiree Mary Baumann, #1217, passed away on Dec. 10 after a lengthy illness.

## Cruiser award ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

California and displaying it during the Expo. A display booth was established at the Expo to feature a video presentation showcasing the design features of the patrol vehicle. The patrol vehicle as well as both officers received numerous positive comments based on their appearance and vehicle presentation.

This award represents all of the continued hard work of so many people, especially those within DPS, who have played a critical role in creating an amazing patrol vehicle. DPS would like to thank all of those who have contributed to this effort.

## Mistake in last issue

In the Down the Highways section of the last issue of *The Digest*, it should have been noted that Ron Bruce made the initial traffic stop near Gray Mountain on Sept. 5 of 1996 that resulted in the seizure of \$74,000 in currency.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

**DIGEST**

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## Down the Highways

**November 1956**

Arizona Highway Patrol officers were investigating a two-car accident Thanksgiving weekend that claimed the lives of three civilians and six airmen from Davis Monthan Air Force Base, Tucson.

The crash, believed to be alcohol-related, occurred Nov. 30 on U.S. 89 about eight miles north of Nogales.

**December 1966**

"The next thing I knew all four subjects had jumped me, and I was down on the ground on my back, and all four subjects were on top of me, beating and kicking.

"I'm not sure how I did it, but I got my gun out of the holster, away from my body, and fired up."

That's Arizona Highway Patrolman Emery Collins describing how he fought off four males he had stopped for allegedly stealing oil from a Holbrook service station Dec. 5.

Collins' bullets shot off one of the suspect's fingers before striking his right hip. A second subject was hit in the left forearm and a third was hit in the right thigh.

Collins was admitted to Holbrook Hospital for treatment of lacerations to his face, left hand and knee, a fractured rib and a mild concussion, *The Digest* reported.

**November 1976**

DPS Air Rescue Pilot Windsor "Duke" Moore, 39, said he has flown many hazard-

ous missions for the Department and has never been injured. Off duty, however, it's a much different story.

Several years ago, Moore said he broke his right arm in four places when he was involved in an off-duty plane crash while crop dusting in Yuma.

Then, in November, while working off duty at the Arizona State Fair, Moore suffered a broken ankle while trying to contain a rambunctious crowd at the second special performance of KC and the Sunshine Band.

**December 1981**

Utah Sales Engineer Gary Anderson, 45, Salt Lake City, said he saw a passenger shoot at DPS officers during a high-speed pursuit north of Flagstaff Oct. 25, *The Arizona Republic* reported Dec. 2.

The pursuit and ultimate shoot-out resulted in the deaths of the driver, Kenneth Gerdes, 18, Tucson, who jumped out of the stolen car shooting, and passenger Samuel Brown, 22, who was struck by a shotgun blast aimed at Gerdes.

Earlier news reports depicted Brown as an innocent hitchhiker who got caught in the crossfire.

**November 1986**

Telecommunications Division Tower Rigger Jerry D. Harris is recovering from a broken ankle and numerous bruises received in mid-October from a 40-foot backward fall

from a tower on Navajo Mountain.

DPS Air Rescue transported Harris to a Flagstaff hospital where it was initially believed he had a dislocated, fractured pelvis.

Communications Service Section Manager Stan Park said Harris recovered at home for four weeks before returning to light duty.

He said Harris believed he had snapped his safety belt into place before leaning back to work but he may have inadvertently attached it onto something else besides the tower, such as a tool, Park theorized.

**December 1996**

DPS Lt. Mike Longman's law enforcement efforts received national coverage and some commentary from one of football's best-known commentators who was in the Phoenix area covering the Arizona Cardinals game against the Dallas Cowboys Dec. 8.

Using a camera aboard the Met Life blimp, Fox Television followed Longman and ASU Police Lt. Bennett Row while they arrested a pair of suspects on a small mountain overlooking the playing field at Sun Devil Stadium. Following a Dallas touchdown, the two reportedly opened fire with a .22-caliber revolver. It turned out they were firing blanks.

While Longman and Rowe were making the arrest, Fox TV color commentator John Madden described the action with the assistance of an electric marker.